



# Bethany Lutheran School

Long Beach, CA

## BEAR FACTS

Issue 33: May 13, 2025

### From the Principal

We felt very spoiled last week for Teacher Appreciation Week! Signs, treats, lunches, massages, car washes....wow! Thank you to our wonderful PTL for organizing and all the parents who donated. :)

It's May, which means there's all kinds of fun ahead as we wind down the school year. We'll do our best to keep you informed and involved! Today we'll be welcoming our author, Barney Saltzberg, to campus! We're looking forward to hearing what he has to say about the writing/publishing process as well as the importance of thinking creatively!

Please keep our 8th graders and Mr. Royuk in prayer as they prepare to leave for Washington DC on Saturday. Thank you for supporting their fundraisers throughout the year! We know they will learn SO much and make wonderful memories along the way. And they won't just learn history: they'll learn to navigate challenges such as being away from home, managing group dynamics, and adapting to potential travel disruptions. Those experiences will help them develop important life skills like responsibility, teamwork, and problem-solving.

*Have a wonderful week!*  
*Dr. Fink*

### Coming Up

- **May 13**-Author Assembly: Barney Saltzberg
- **May 14**-5th Grade State Event
- **May 16** - Bethany Music Academy Recital-6:30
- **May 17-23**-8th Grade DC/NY trip
- **May 18**- Trinity/Troubadour Choir Sing, 8:00 and 9:30
- **May 21-23** 4th Grade Sacramento trip
- **May 26**-Memorial Day-No School
- **May 29** -Spring Concert-7 PM
- **May 30**-PTL Movie Night
- **June 1**-8th Grade Graduation-4:00
- **June 2**-Fun Day
- **June 3**-Field Day
- **June 4**-Park and Pool Day
- **June 5**-Last Day of School-K Graduation-Minimum Day
- **Aug. 20/24**- Family Classroom Visits
- **Aug. 26** First Day of School

### A note from our librarian, Mrs. Seaman



Grades K-5: This is the last week the students will check out library books from the Bethany library. Please make sure all books are returned next week!

*Leading chapel this week:*

### First Grade

Parents, you are welcome to join us at 9:00 in the church.

## Meet Our New Kindergarten Teacher: Mrs. Madison Ruiz



We're thrilled to welcome Madison Ruiz to Bethany Lutheran School as our new Kindergarten teacher beginning this Fall! Mrs. Ruiz brings valuable teaching experience, creativity, and a heart for young learners to this role. She is a graduate of Concordia University-Irvine and, along with her husband Austin, is a member of Bethany Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Ruiz joins us from Christ Lutheran School in Costa Mesa, where she taught Kindergarten and held leadership roles on staff. Her passion for education extends beyond the classroom—she has also served as an Under Grace–Under Eight leader and a Vacation Bible School team leader here at Bethany, sharing her faith and love of learning with children of all ages.

Mrs. Ruiz is looking forward to partnering with families and the Bethany team to help each child grow academically, socially, and spiritually. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome to our school family!

## Middle School Corner

### These are a few of our favorite things (8th grade edition)

- One of my favorite Bethany memories was "Night Snorkeling" in Catalina. It was scary at first, but soon, I loved it more than any other activity there. Being with my friends was a great experience.
- One of my favorite memories from Bethany is when we got to go look at beautiful churches in the city of LA. It was something I had never experienced before and it was so exciting and truly amazing.
- One of my favorite memories from my time at Bethany was the night snorkel at Catalina Island. During our trip to Catalina, we had a nighttime snorkel opportunity. We suited up, got partners and dove in. We got to see some bioluminescent plankton. As we swam and moved around it, it glowed in different patterns. It was beautiful against the night sky and stars. I hope to never forget that magical experience.
- My favorite memory at Bethany was jumping off the pier at Catalina. The water was so clear and beautiful, it felt like I was in the Moana movie. It was so fun, and I can't wait to go back there again.
- One of my favorite memories at Bethany was our 8th-grade PE classes while playing cat and mouse. Everyone was all in. We laughed, we ran, and for a moment, it was pure happiness.

### **These are a few of our favorite things...continued.**

- I always had fun being on the track team! I have been on it since 5th grade all the way through 8th grade. I never lost on the 100 or 200 in any of the meets ever since I started doing track in 5th Grade. I also got the longest jump in all of 8th grade girls from Bethany and the other schools at our last track meet. I love going and cheering on my teammates, and I also enjoy bonding with my relay team friends whom I love very much.
- During my years at Bethany, I enjoyed my field trips and influences here at school. I can't pick only one memory because I have so many that I will take with me for the rest of my life. Playing corn hole with Mr. Morner or playing cards with my classmates at Catalina, they all mean a lot to me. While being student council president, I've learned many life lessons, my favorite being: Be confident, yet be curious.
- My favorite memory from Bethany is when we went night snorkeling in Catalina. We all had partners and all the groups got flashlights. It was a really cool experience, and we got to see so many species of fish.
- I don't have just one favorite memory because I have so many. I always enjoy watching some of my best friends graduate from Bethany. I love watching the 8th grade video, seeing them grow in to these amazing young adults, and how they and I can't wait to be up there watching all my childhood years go by.
- My favorite memory had to be when I went to Catalina because my friends and I learned about the ocean animals and created a stronger relationship with each other by helping each other find animals and making many amazing memories.
- I have unique memories with each of my classmates, but our 6th grade year stands out because it was our year of firsts: lock in, dance, and movie night!
- One of my favorite memories I made while at Bethany was handing out popsicles to other students with Mrs. Moorman, one of my teachers, on a very hot day.
- I loved the day we had potluck lunch with the whole 7th grade class and the teachers. The room was filled with laughter and joy. Soon after we finished the potluck, Miss Einspahr let us braid her hair and give her a makeover. Memories were made!
- One of my favorite memories is when I went to Catalina, specifically the all-day kayak trip. We played games and took detours through caves on the way. Throughout the entire trip to the island, we bonded so much as a class, and I felt closer than ever to my peers.
- My favorite memory from my two years at Bethany was my Catalina trip. From the time when Miss. Einspahr French braided everyone's hair, making friendship bracelets on the day trip, performing crazy skits around the camp fire, praying under the stars, and falling asleep to the sound of the waves. Every moment was special and brought me closer to some of my favorite people. Thank you, Bethany, for all the fun experiences and preparing me for high school.
- During my middle school years, I always loved lock-ins with all the fun games late at night, the food, and movie nights.

*"All honor and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King,  
the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen." 1 Timothy 1:17*

# Fun Day is Coming!!!

Bethany Fun Day 2025 will be Monday, June 2nd and is an **"All Hands on Deck" volunteer event**. This year in addition to EZ Ups, coolers, and physical help we are asking for donations of food items and prizes as well (please refer to links for specific items needed). So finish up FISH hour requirements here! Sign yourself up, sign up aunties, uncles, grandparents, neighbors!! Anyone who is able, willing, and friendly is welcome, this event requires A LOT of hands.

**Sign up here!**



Summer is just around the corner. Make the most of it with RaiseRight! Enjoy all of your summer activities and keep earning a rebate for next school year - use gift cards to pay for all of your summer fun! There are so many eGift card options you can purchase and use right from your phone on the RaiseRight app making it easier than ever to incorporate gift cards into your purchasing routine.

Rebates aren't just for tuition - you can support Student Success, music, youth, or general ministry.

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator



*We will  
miss  
you*



Please put Sunday, June 1 on your calendar. We will be wishing a fond farewell to Pastor Kyle and Mrs. Blake here at Bethany on that Sunday morning. We will miss them so much, but we know they will have a big impact on their ministries in Texas!

We are also collecting farewell cards for the Blakes throughout the month of May. You can send your cards to the school office and we will deliver them.

*"At Bethany He blessed them." Luke 24:50*



# JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING WEEK!

The Easy VBS®



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808

JUNE 23-27, 2025, 8:30 A.M.-NOON

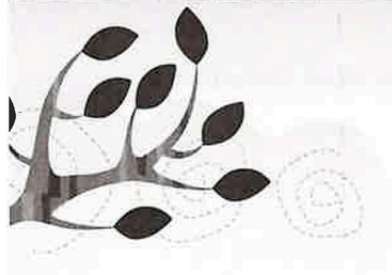
THIS **FREE** VBS IS FOR AGES  
3 YEARS OLD AND POTTY-TRAINED THROUGH ENTERING 6TH  
GRADE.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN  
**APRIL 13TH THRU JUNE 20TH**

[Register today!](#)



# Summer Reading Skills PROGRAMS



**Loyola Marymount  
University  
Extension**

Taught by instructors from the  
Institute of Reading Development  
Offered in cooperation with Loyola  
Marymount University Extension



**Phonics  
Fluency  
Comprehension  
Love of Reading  
Study Skills  
Reading Speed**

## **CLASSES OFFERED IN CARSON, CYPRESS, HUNTINGTON BEACH, and LAKEWOOD VILLAGE**

### **Program for 4-Year-Olds and Entering Kindergartners**

Your child will learn to read in this exciting program! Children learn letter recognition, beginning phonics, and easy sight words while developing a real love of books. By the end of the program your child will read simple words and sentences and be confident about reading.

### **Program for Entering 1st Graders**

Your child will learn to read independently in this fun program. Children learn the most important first grade reading skills—phonics, sight words and comprehension—and develop a love of reading. Your child will start the school year confident, enthusiastic, and ready to succeed!

### **Program for Entering 2nd Graders**

In this fun program your child will become a confident, enthusiastic reader! Children build strong phonics skills and improve reading fluency and comprehension. Your child will develop a love of reading and get off to a great start in second grade.

### **Program for Entering 3rd Graders**

In this fun program, your child will become a strong, enthusiastic reader who loves books. Children improve decoding skills, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary, so they start third grade confident about reading and excited to learn!

### **Program for Entering 4th and 5th Graders**

In this fun and effective program, your child will become a more skilled, confident reader! Students improve comprehension and fluency in fiction and nonfiction and expand their vocabulary. As a result, your child will complete homework more easily, get better grades, and enjoy reading more.

### **Program for Entering 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders**

In this program, your child will become a stronger reader and a more confident, motivated student. Students double reading speed and improve comprehension and focus in fiction and nonfiction, both in print and online. Your child will expand vocabulary and learn note-taking, test-taking, and study strategies that result in higher grades and test scores!

### **Program for Entering 9th, 10th, and 11th Graders**

This program will set your son or daughter up for academic success in high school! Students learn to read twice as fast and increase comprehension and focus in fiction and nonfiction, both in print and online. They expand vocabulary and develop effective study and test-taking strategies, leading to better exam scores and higher grades.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER  
Call 1-800-903-0162**

Mon.-Fri. 5am-7pm, Sat. 5am-4pm, and Sun. 7am-3pm

**PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR CLASS SCHEDULE**

Source Code: 320-15-76668





## Class Schedule

All programs meet once each week. Tuition varies by grade level. Please ask about our family discount.

Programs meet in **Carson (CN)** at First Lutheran Church of Carson, 19707 South Central Avenue,  
in **Cypress (C)** at Neighborhood Church, 6143 Ball Road,  
in **Huntington Beach (H)** on campus at Golden West College,  
and in **Lakewood Village (LV)** at Bethany Lutheran School, 5100 East Arbor Road.

**Additional programs available at other locations and online.**

### **4-Year-Olds & Entering Kindergartners:**

Fri. June 6-July 11, 9:00am-10:15am (C)  
Mon. June 16-July 14, 9:00am-10:15am (CN)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 9:00am-10:15am (H)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 9:00am-10:15am (LV)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 2:15pm-3:30pm (LV)

### **Entering 1st Graders:**

Fri. June 6-July 11, 10:30am-11:45am (C)  
Mon. June 16-July 14, 10:30am-11:45am (CN)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 10:30am-11:45am (H)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 10:30am-11:45am (LV)

### **Entering 2nd Graders:**

Fri. June 6-July 11, 12:45pm-2:00pm (C)  
Mon. June 16-July 14, 12:45pm-2:00pm (CN)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 12:45pm-2:00pm (H)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 12:45pm-2:00pm (LV)

### **Entering 3rd Graders:**

Fri. June 6-July 11, 2:15pm-3:30pm (C)  
Mon. June 16-July 14, 2:15pm-3:30pm (CN)  
Mon. July 14-August 11, 2:15pm-3:30pm (H)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 9:00am-10:15am (LV)

### **Entering 4th and 5th Graders:**

Thu. June 12-July 10, 9:00am-10:15am (C)  
Wed. June 18-July 16, 9:00am-10:15am (CN)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 9:00am-10:15am (H)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 10:30am-11:45am (LV)

### **Entering 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders:**

Thu. June 12-July 10, 10:30am-11:45am (C)  
Wed. June 18-July 16, 10:30am-11:45am (CN)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 10:30am-11:45am (H)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 12:45pm-2:00pm (LV)

### **Entering 9th, 10th, and 11th Graders:**

Thu. June 12-July 10, 12:45pm-2:00pm (C)  
Wed. June 18-July 16, 12:45pm-2:00pm (CN)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 12:45pm-2:00pm (H)  
Fri. July 18-August 15, 2:15pm-3:30pm (LV)

Programs are taught by instructors from the Institute of Reading Development. The Institute has been teaching these programs in cooperation with **Loyola Marymount University Extension** for the past 28 years.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER**

**Call 1-800-903-0162**

**Mon.-Fri. 5am-7pm, Sat. 5am-4pm, and Sun. 7am-3pm**

**INQUIRE EARLY! CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED.**